Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12955 181237Z

44
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 OPR-02

SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05 SCCT-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

SCS-03 SCA-01 /105 W
---------- 037507
O P 181140Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 6691
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
COMMSIXTHFLT
CTF SIX ZERO
CTF SIX ONE
CTF SIX TWO
CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO
FOSIF ROTA SPAIN
FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA
DIA WASH DC
CIA WASH DC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 12955 181237Z

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12955

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE
SUBJ: BEIRUT PACIFICATION: AFTER RECENT STEPS FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK

REF: BEIRUT 12929

1. THE SECURITY PICTURE IN BEIRUT IS SOMEWHAT WORSE TODAY, OCTOBER 18, THAN IT WAS YESTERDAY IN THE WAKE OF RENEWED KIDNAPPING AND SHOOTING LAST NIGHT IN SOME QUARTERS OF BEIRUT. HOWEVER, THE CLASHES WERE LIMITED AND DETERIORATION IS NOT WIDESPREAD. NO TENDENCY TO REBUILD BARRICADES IS NOTICEABLE, ALTHOUGH ARMED MEN OF PRIVATE MILITIAS ARE MUCH IN EVIDENCE AND MOBILE ROADBLOCKS ARE COMMON. A SIGN OF CONTINUING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IS THAT TRAFFIC IS HEAVY TODAY IN BUSINESS DISTRICTS.

2. MAIN CAUSE OF LATEST SETBACK IS MINI-WAVE OF KIDNAPPINGS OCCURRING OVER LAST FEW DAYS, RAISING TENSIONS AND PROVOKING RETALIATORY KIDNAPPINGS AT THE MOBILE ROADBLOCKS. CASE OF FOUR MEN KIDNAPPED FROM NEAR ZAHLE WHOSE BODDIES DISCOVERED IN BEIRUT (REFTEL) CONTINUES TO ROUSE SHARP MOSLEM REACTION IN BEKAA VALLEY. TROUBLES ARE REPORTED AT ZAHLE, THOUGH NOT YET OF MAJOR PROPORTIONS.

3. INCREASE IN VIOLENCE LEVEL OVERNIGHT APPEARS NOT TO HAVE SERIOUSLY DAMPENED ECONOMIC RESURGENCE OF PAST TWO DAYS. MOST SHOPS AND BANKS ARE OPEN, AND COUNTER EXCHANGE RATE REMAINS AT 2.30 LL TO THE DOLLAR (BUYING) AND 2.40 (SELLING). AFTER MEETINGS OF BUSINESS AND LABOR LEADERS, LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER TWEINI IS CONVENING A MEETING ON OCTOBER 23 OF NATIONAL LABOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ECONOMIC LABOR ISSUES ARISING OUT OF VIOLENCE.

4. NEWSPAPERS REPORT IRAQI DELEGATION VISITING BEIRUT WILL RECOMMEND IRAQI AID FOR LEBANESE RECONSTRUCTION, BUT THAT KUWAITIN PRIME MINISTER HAS STATED KUWAIT WILL NOT CONTRI-BUTE TO REBUILDING SHOPS IN BEIRUT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 12955 181237Z

5. MINISTER OF HEALTH HAS DENIED INTERNATIONAL PRESS REPORTS FROM DAMASCUS OF EPDEMIC CHOLERA, TYPHOID, AND OTHER DISEASES AMONG ESTIMATED 25,000 LEBANESE REFUGEES IN SYRIA.

6. SECURITY OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND UNCERTAIN. DETERIORATION COULD BE ARRESTED BY THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF AUTHORITIES

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

TO CLEAR UP PENDING KIDNAP CASES, OR IT COULD BE AGGRAVATED
BY SEVERE REACTION ON PART OF ANY FACTION TO KIDNAP RUMORS.

7. OUR PRESENT INTENTION IS TO SKIP SITREP TOMORROW, OCT.
19, BARRING FURTHER SETBACKS.
GODLEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, COMBAT OPERATIONS, LIMITATIONS OF HOSTILITIES, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BEIRUT12955
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750362-0611
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751041/aaaabkmp.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BEIRUT 12929
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BEIRUT PACIFICATION: AFTER RECENT STEPS FORWARD, ONE STEP BACK
TAGS: PINS, PINT, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006